

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 94 22:08:11 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: List
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #1199
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 8 Nov 94 Volume 94 : Issue 1199

Today's Topics:

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 Routing Coax into house?
 switching power supplies, why or why not?
 The book:Low Band DXing by ON4UN
 Wanted: quality code practice audio
 wanted control program for yaesu ft 747,757,767

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 04:51:24 GMT
From: steve@vigra.com (Steve Haehnichen)
Subject: \$5 or \$6 for VE's? Think again...

=> On Tue, 1 Nov 1994 20:26:24 GMT, dbushong@wang.com (Dave Bushong) said:

> ham@wam.umd.edu (Scott Richard Rosenfeld) writes:
>> At a standard exam, we'd have maybe 6 examinees, and 3 or 4 VE's, meaning
>> I'd get a dozen donuts or bagels and cream cheese, and maybe a half-gallon
>> of OJ, so that's \$5.00 for the bagels & CC, and maybe \$1.75 for the OJ,
>> leaving \$5.25 of the original \$12.00 from the examinees.

> Are you saying that some of the exam fee went to paying for refreshments?

When I went to take my exam a few months ago from the local SANDARC group here in San Diego CA, I kept waiting to pay somebody, but it turns out that they never charge. Just their policy I guess.

They provided the test materials, postage, and manpower all for free without even mentioning any costs they might have. Fine folks. They seemed entirely motivated by the passing grades they got to sign off. :-)

Anyway, if I ever go back to take another test, I think it would be cool to bring bagels or doughnuts or something to say thanks. There weren't any refreshments there last time, and I was there for a few hours.

-Steve

Steve Haehnichen	Vigra, Inc. San Diego, CA
steve@vigra.com	(619) 597-7080 x116 Fax: (619) 597-7094

Date: 8 Nov 94 16:55:47 GMT
From: William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.rockwell.COM
Subject: \$5 or \$6 for VE's? Think again...

as i understand the ARRL VEC rules -- everything will go to the VEC unless you have a true need to hold back some funds...our group has been acquiring koss IR headsets this way...next will probably be a replacement tape recorder..

but none of it goes to anything but real expenses that are documented.

our 10th anniversary is coming up in december, and i know the snacks and drinks aren't going to come from exam fees for that one (if the school will grant us special dispensation to have food in a classroom....i think they

will).

bill wb9ivr

Date: 7 Nov 1994 16:56:44 GMT
From: mwhite@mitre.org (Michael White)
Subject: 0 to Extra

Dale Piedfort wrote:

> Steve Griggs now AC6CF took all the written and 20 wpm exams at one
> sitting...

Wow! AC6CF is my hero! I went from General to Extra in one sitting, and I
thought *that* was a lot. Good show, Steve!

Mike, N4PDY

--

mwhite@mitre.org

My opinions are my own, not my employer's.

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 12:58:30
From: davidd@nbnet.nb.ca (David Delaney)
Subject: 6LQ6's

Does anyone know where I can source a supply of good sturdy 6LQ6 sweep tubes?
They are for my Kenwood linear and it has an appetite for them. There are some
cheapies on the market but they only last a matter of hours. Thanks, Dave D.
(davidd@nbnet.nb.ca)

Date: 7 Nov 1994 09:12 CDT
From: ami9667@venus.tamu.edu (IACOVIDES, ANDREAS MICHAEL)
Subject: Anyone using an ATV transceiver from PC electronics?

Hi, i need to know what is behind the TX/RX switch of those ATV transceivers.
Actually i need to know if it's an electromechanical relay or a solid state
circuit. If anyone knows i would appreciate any help.

Thanks

Andreas Iacovides 5B4SJ

Date: Mon, 07 Nov 1994 17:47:41 EST
From: w1aw@arrl.org
Subject: ARLB089 Action on digital HF

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB089
ARLB089 Action on digital HF

ZCZC AG54
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 89 ARLB089
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT November 8, 1994
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB089
ARLB089 Action on digital HF

Actions on digital plan

The ARRL has filed reply comments on FCC PR Docket 94-59, that proposes to allow automatic control of digital stations on the HF bands under certain specific conditions.

The League said that it shared concerns filed by some amateurs, about the possibility of interference to amateurs using other modes, and urged the FCC to adopt its original proposal for specific subbands and other restrictions.

The ARRL made essentially the same recommendation in its comments on the FCC proposal in early October. By that time, the FCC had received comments from 15 parties, eight opposed to automatic HF control, five supporting the League's proposal for specific subbands, and two supporting the ARRL plan but with additional provisions for avoiding interference.

The League said in its reply comments on November 1 that since some parties suggest no restrictions, while others advocate no changes at all at this time, that it, the ARRL, favored a middle course, as it originally had proposed (and was the basis of the Notice of Proposed Rule Making).

More information was in August, 1994 QST, page 71.

NNNN
/EX

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 14:24:00
From: dlgates@sam.neosoft.com (D. L. Gates)
Subject: Calling anyone in Singapore for some help

This is a wild stab looking for help in locating someone. I don't have radio but thought ham tradition might come to the fore.

Someone I have not seen in ten or twelve years now works in Singapore for an organization called Asia Emergency Assistance. Her name is Dr. Sandra Johnson. I have exhausted all the WHOIS servers I can find but have been unable to identify a possible domain and her e-mail address. Any help would be greatly appreciated, via e-mail, please!

=====
D. L. Gates, Ph.D. || Gates-o-Wisdom Software
1908 Rampart St., League City, TX 77573-1946
Custom Database Applications in Microsoft Access
=====

Date: Mon, 7 Nov 1994 17:06:35 LOCAL
From: nielsen@primenet.com (Bob Nielsen)
Subject: CHIPSWITCH upgrade for HR2600 ?

I missed the beginning of the thread. What does the Chipswitch upgrade do?

Bob Nielsen, W6SWE
Tucson, AZ
nielsen@primenet.com

Date: Mon, 7 Nov 94 22:22:36 -0500
From: wcoyle@delphi.com
Subject: Dx Qsl for oe5wll

If anyone knows the QSL route for OE5WLL in Austria, I would really be gratefull. Even if it was just an address in an overseas callbook.

Tnx
Wcoyle@delphi.com
73
N30GH

Date: 8 Nov 94 22:01:50 GMT
From: William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.rockwell.COM
Subject: FCC new license processing time...

>Since the FCC is getting ready to activate Electronic Filing of FCC Form
>610 Applications, the time that it is going to take (in early 1995)
>between testing and license receipt will be just a matter of a few days ..
>maybe even "hours."

Kewl....now for distributed printing..8)

bill wb9ivr

Date: Sun, 6 Nov 94 16:36:00 -0500
From: marv.shelton@woodybbs.com (Marv Shelton)
Subject: Hello

Ds> david wb7tpy
Ds> Editor, HICNet Medical Newsletter
Ds> Internet: david@stat.com FAX: +1 (602)
Ds> 451-1165 Bitnet : ATW1H@ASUACAD
Hello Dave,
I see from the above that we're both still around!

73's,

Marv
Internet: mshelton@cjbbs.com

* Origin: The MICRO Rm BBS (908)245-6614 Roselle, NJ (1:107/919)

Date: 7 Nov 1994 16:54:33 GMT
From: mwhite@mitre.org (Michael White)
Subject: How good is 10 db 2 meter yagi?

Simon Kwan wrote:
>... range improvement from a 10 db Yagi

All other things being equal, an extra 10 dB of gain would give you about 1.5 S-units greater received signal at the other end. However, your 5/8 was already giving you about 3 dBi gain, so you are only getting a net 7 dB increase at best; this is about one S-unit. So if you were, say, S4 with the 5/8 antenna, with the beam, you would be at about S5. Actual range for

terrestrial VHF applications is determined principally by terrain, not gain and power considerations.

Here's the actual math: $P_r = P_t + G_t + G_r - L_p$, where P_r = received power (dBm), P_t = transmitted power (dBm), G_t = transmitter antenna gain (dB), G_r = receiver antenna gain (dB), and L_p = path loss (dB). L_p is in turn made up of "free space" path loss plus terrain path loss. Free space path loss (dB) = $20 \log F + 20 \log D - 36$ (approximately), where F is frequency in megahertz and d is distance in miles (I'm doing this from memory, but I think it's right. Someone correct me if I got it wrong). Terrain loss is highly site specific, and depends on the dielectric properties of the earth on your area, and the height and shape of the terrain between the transmitter and receiver.

Good luck.
Mike, N4PDY
--
mwhite@mitre.org

My opinions are my own, not my employer's.

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 10:24:51 GMT
From: marcdbg@metronet.com (Marc B. Grant)
Subject: ICOM Repeater Questions

In article <39h861\$74g@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu>, fk192@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (John J. Udvari) wrote:

> Anyone out there have an ICOM uhf repeater (IC-RP4020)? A
> local group has one and is looking to add on other features. At
> present it is stock out of the box. Anybody added a different
> controller? Remote inputs? what have you. Need some ideas from
> others who have this repeater.

We've got an ICOM 2 meter repeater on our company club machine. I have not been particularly happy with its performance, it doesn't have the world's greatest front end. I'm use to Motorola machines or GE radios. The ICOM is fair at best. If you're in a low RF noise environment, it probably will be OK.

As for interfacing to another controller, ours is interfaced to an ACC RC850. Not too difficult, just a few wires and then tweaking some audio levels.

There are a lot of other options for 440 repeaters. Perhaps one of the best is to get a GE mobile radio or Motorola Micor for UHF and convert it

to a repeater. If you don't have someone technically inclined in your group enough to do that, then take a look at Hamtronics, a company out of NY. I know several groups that are pleased with their repeaters and they cost A LOT less than the ICOM machines, and they have better customer support. They're listed each month in QST.

--

Marc B. Grant
marcbg@metronet.com
Amateur Radio N5MEI

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 15:29:15 GMT
From: dbasinge@nickel.ucs.indiana.edu (Mike Basinger)
Subject: Indiana University Amateur Radio Club Web Page

In case you are interested...

Please check out the Indiana University Amateur Radio Club Web Page.

<http://ezinfo.ucs.indiana.edu/~k9iu/>

It has information about the campus club here at Indiana University.

73,
Mike

--

Mike Basinger [N9YY0]
dbasinge@nickel.ucs.indiana.edu
dbasinge@indiana.edu (BinHex & MIME accepted)
"Not speaking for Indiana University"

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 09:31:41 GMT
From: dstock@hpmqmdla.sqf.hp.com (David Stockton)
Subject: Maws Coad and Spelinge

wcoyle@delphi.com wrote:

: Let me tell you something, at least these people have the GUTS
: to admit how they feel, and don't bow down to some crap that
: they have to be nice to everyone who comes along. The bottom
: line is everyone is different and we will always have
: differences, and at least some people will stand up for what
: they believe.

Derek certainly had the guts to state his feelings. He certainly has not bowed down to any expectation that he has to be nice to everyone.

Have you considered the possibility that he was not insulting in order to create humour, but used humour as a tool in winding some people up?

I'm glad that people are different, it makes the world a more interesting place. As long as people can tolerate the existence of different people, those differences can be great strengths. People like Derek who stir people up are important as sometimes they stir people into examining themselves from a new perspective.

Derek's quite a decent bloke, but he does tease people. You can tease him back and make him think about himself. Humour is probably the most powerful weapon possible. Hitler was not much angered by successful allied commanders compared to how Chaplin in his parody "The Great Dictator" got to him, according to a historian friend. I don't think that anything not tipped with humour will get past Derek's defences, he's a pretty hardened cookie :-)

Cheers

David GM4ZNX

:
: I'll tell you straight out; My spelling aint so hot, I'm a
: member of the NRA, and I (in all honesty)am not to fond of gay
: people. In other words, you insulted me, I don't appreciate
: it, and for all I care, you and your liberal bullshit can rot
: in hell .
:
: Oh, by the way, get off your high horse, anyone who thinks they
: are "very intelligent" usually is an idiot (as proved by your
: post).
:
: And at least I've got the BALLS to say it (which is a lot less
: I can say for most folks)
: W.coyle@Delphi.com
: N30GH
:

Date: 8 Nov 1994 13:33:14 -0800
From: arthurc@crl.com (Arthur Chandler)
Subject: Morse Code and Age?

Is it tougher to learn Morse code when you're ...um.... more mature?
:<) In other words, do younger folks have an edge when trying to learn
CW -- especially at the faster speeds? Or do you think that, given equal
desire, someone 60 could learn 13 wpm or 20 wpm just as fast as an 18
year old?

Date: 8 Nov 94 21:39:51 GMT
From: William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.rockwell.COM
Subject: Motorola Amateur Group????

> I could never understand why Motorola shunned the Amateur market...
>Lord knows there's enough of their equipment that's been modified for HAM
>use... Then again, could be the cost. ;-)
>73 de N9WYS

there's effectively no amateur market when you look at the size of other
markets --- look at the number of cell radiophones sold in your town this
month vs the number of new hams nationwide this year and i'll bet the cell
radiophones come out on top.

plus it seems you can't bring in an amateur product w/o lots and lots of
customer support -- it's almost a surprise that packet goes as well as it does
given that there's no standard interface between the radio and the TNC that
would let you usually use a one-size-fits-all cable...

bill wb9ivr

Date: 8 Nov 1994 15:55:01 GMT
From: djenkins@jetson.uh.edu (David Jenkins)
Subject: Recommendations for logging program for IBM PC compatibles?

Can anyone point me to review of free or fee logging programs for Intel
based PCs?

TIA and 73

David F. Jenkins
Decision and Information Sciences
University of Houston
KC5JRR

ut autopatch)?

Thanks

-Jamie, N1RHC

Date: Mon, 7 Nov 1994 19:37:34 GMT
From: jyoungberg@draper.com (James W. Youngberg)
Subject: Routing Coax into House

I've used drier vents in the last two houses I've lived in. The shroud makes a good rain hood. (Stuff the open space with foam to keep the varmints out.) Good, professional appearance offends few and limits the damage to the house's resale value.

Skip, K1NKR

Date: 8 Nov 94 08:50:27 EDT
From: landisj@drager.com (Joe Landis - Systems & Network Mgr)
Subject: Routing Coax into house?

In article <399iv7\$doq@on-ramp.ior.com>, bobr@on-ramp.ior.com (Robert J. Raymond) writes:

> I would like to obtain some suggestions on how best to route several coaxial
> cables, rotator control cables, etc., into my new house. The thought of
> drilling a hole in the wallboard and T111 makes me feel ill. Is there any
> reasonable way around this. If not, ways to do it best would be appreciated.
> Thanks.
>

Your gonna need to drill.

I've cut thru the siding and the box joist with a hole saw and inserted a length of PVC pipe. Then glued on a 45 degree elbow pointing down at the outside, and another short length of PVC, so the water stays out. RTV around the PVC to the siding and the inside of the box joist. Run your cables. I then installed pipe caps, with slots cut to clear the cables, on both ends (not glued). This keeps out the rodents and the big bugs. You can also stuff a little fiberglass insulation into the inside pipe end to keep out the drafts.

I have used 1" PVC, and it works ok for a few cables. You can use 1-1/2 for more/bigger. You can also install a dryer vent pipe and vent cap. Run your cables thru, and stuff it with fiberglass to make it weathertight.

I also thought about mounting an outdoor box, and making up a plate that I could drill for bulkhead type N connectors. If you move, you could always change the cover plate and make it into an outdoor power receptacle.

Some hams replace a window pane with a plexiglass sheet that they then drill feedthrus in. Some also make a false window sill, that is split and drilled for the cables.

Joe - AA3GN

--

Joe Landis - Systems and Network Manager - North American Drager - Telford, PA
landisj@drager.com - Ax25: AA3GN@WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NA

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 18:24:38 GMT
From: tomb@lsid.hp.com (Tom Bruhns)
Subject: switching power supplies, why or why not?

Gary Coffman (gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us) wrote:

: Well, a PC supply only puts out a couple of amps of 12 volts, and
: it *needs* a load on the 5 volt output or it'll go out of regulation.
: So it's not really a practical option for most uses. Switching
: supplies *in general* are efficient and light, but they are more
: subject to generating RFI and more subject to being disturbed by
: RF. That's why I prefer the old brute force designs like the
: Astron.

You can of course get switching supplies for just "12" volts, but there remain the RFI and IRF problems, and one other: switching supplies often don't like loads that vary a lot, like keyed or SSB-modulated HF rigs would be. A properly designed and constructed supply should be fine, but don't expect to find that in a cheap supply.

Date: 8 Nov 1994 18:28:33 GMT
From: tomrune@mac_inge.UCSD.EDU (Tom Rune Lauknes)
Subject: The book:Low Band DXing by ON4UN

Hi there, and thanks for reading this message.

I am going to buy the book "Low Band DXing "by ON4UN, but I do not know what is the latest edition.

I think someone mentioned February 94, but I am not sure.

By the way, anyone knows how much ARRL takes for the book ?

Pse reply direct to
tomrune@mac_inge.itek.norut.no

73 and good DX
73 and good DX
from LA1BJA/JW1BJA Tom

d

Date: 7 Nov 1994 22:30:18 -0400
From: btrembla@shark.stmarys.ca (Bernard D. Tremblay (Ben))
Subject: Wanted: quality code practice audio

In article <CynGJI.1t6@news.arco.com>, rll@apnissun1.corp.arco.com (Richard L. Lamb) says:
[chopped - bdt]
>I'm looking for a way to generate high quality Morse audio for
>code practice
If you want to practice, why not practice what you're likely to hear in the real world?
> I've tried a couple of computer programs playing through both the computer speaker and a
>Soundblaster, but neither method is of acceptable quality when recorded on tape. What's 'acceptable' quality? If you want real world, a fifth-generation cassette copy might be 'better' than something hi-fi.
>
>I'd like sine wave output with a smooth keying envelope.
... why? ...
[...]
>Richard L. Lamb, Jr. N6UDD Opinions expressed are my own,
[...]
Ben Tremblay VE1CBV
p.s. I just finished 94SS/CW/QRP ... :-(

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 12:29:40 -0600
From: "Terrance L. Jennings" <tjenn@lonestar.jpl.utsa.edu>
Subject: wanted control program for yaesu ft 747,757,767

i'm looking for a CAT computer program for controlling one of
these radios.

thanks
terrance

Date: 8 Nov 1994 18:23:50 GMT
From: jbs@duke.edu (Joe B. Simpson)

References<1994Nov7.190647.5789@ulb.isc.rit.edu> <39m6nh\$kj@news.duke.edu>,
<39o700\$5pc@mozo.cc.purdue.edu>
Subject: Re: R.S. 2 Meter Amplifier???

In article <39o700\$5pc@mozo.cc.purdue.edu> mconner@rain.atms.purdue.edu (Mark D.
Conner) writes:

>>>... Well, RS fails to sell a VHF/UHF
>>>SWR meter, and there are no local "Ham" shops.
>>
>>Radio Shack most certainly DOES sell a VHF/UHF SWR meter. Check again.
>
>If you're certain they're selling one, can you post a catalog number?
>My latest catalog doesn't show a VHF/UHF meter, and several local hams
>and an RS salesman have told me they stopped selling them about a year
>ago.

Well, egg on MY face. You're right, it's been discontinued. You might call
around to other RS stores, though - I saw one of these on the shelf of a local
Rat Shack a couple of months ago. There might be a few still stocked here and
there.

-joe

--
"When personal freedom's being abused, | "I have an open mind, about everything
you have to move to limit it." | it needs to be open about."
|
- U.S. President Bill Clinton, 1994 | - George Greene 9/13/94

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #1199
